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REMARKS

Applicant graciously appreciates the Office's attention to the instant application. In a telephonic interview on June 13, 2005, Applicant discussed the claims and the Gudjonsson reference (Gudjonsson et al., US Pat. No. 6,564,261) with the Examiner. For purposes of clarity, various independent claims are currently amended to indicate that the user in the first and second networks of the heterogeneous network is the same user. This was inferred in the original claims, however, the Examiner suggested explicitly reciting that the user is the same user in the first and second networks of the heterogeneous network. Applicant notes that claims 13 and 41 recite only a single user, i.e., a user in a second network, as such, claims 13 and 41 remain as originally presented. Again, Applicant appreciates the Examiner's time and effort with respect to this particular issue.

In view of the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims of the instant application. This response is believed to be fully responsive to all issues raised in the February 11, 2005 Office Action. Claims 1, 8, 9, 24, 26, 37, 39 and 43 are currently amended. Claims 1-44 are pending.

Brief Summary of Various Subject Matter of the Instant Application

The instant application pertains to heterogeneous networks. A particular example considers a scenario where a user may have more than one user name in such heterogeneous networks. For example, a user may have a user name for a network that relies on a WINDOWS® OS and a different user name for a network that relies on a UNIX OS. Table 1 at page 20 of the instant application gives two

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1 examples: a user with a user name JohnDoe for a WINDOWS® OS network and a
2 user name Johnd for a UNIX OS network and a user with a user name Maryjane
3 for a WINDOWS® OS network and Maryj for a UNIX OS network. This is just
4 one issue that may arise in a heterogeneous network. As discussed below, the
5 Gundjonsson reference does not address this issue or various other issues
6 associated with a user in a heterogeneous network.

7 Objection to Title

8 In the Office Action dated February 11, 2005, the objected to the title as not
9 descriptive and requested a new title that is "clearly indicative of the invention to
10 which the claims are directed". Applicant hereby proposes amendment of the title to
11 read "User Name Mapping for a User in a Heterogeneous Network". Applicant
12 respectfully requests acknowledgement of the Office as to the sufficiency of the
13 proposed title. In the instance that the Office finds the proposed title sufficient,
14 Applicant requests entry of such amendment to the title.
15

16 Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(e): Gundjonsson et al.

17 In the Office Action dated February 11, 2005, the Office rejected claims 1-
18 44 as being anticipated by Gudjonsson et al., US Pat. No. 6,564,261, referred to
19 herein as the Gudjonsson reference.

20 As set forth in §2131 of the MPEP: "A claim is anticipated only if each and
21 every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently
22 described, in a single prior art reference." Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of
23 California, 814 F.2d 628, 631 (Fed. Cir. 1987). "The identical invention must be
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1 shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim." Richardson v. Suzuki
2 Motor Co., 868 F.2d 1226, 1236 (Fed. Cir. 1989).

3 The Gudjonsson reference pertains to establishing sessions between
4 anonymous users over various networks (see, e.g., title). The Gudjonsson
5 reference discloses a user mapping function, "UMF". The UMF "[m]aps a given
6 local user to a specific US [user server]" and "[m]aps a user at another cluster to a
7 specific ICS [intra-cluster server] through the CID [cluster ID] associated with the
8 user" (see Table 1, col. 15). According to the Gudjonsson reference, a user ID
9 and a CID may be as follows: "joe@net.com", where "joe" is the user ID and the
10 part after the @ sign is the CID (see, col. 16, lines 44-45). Further, per the
11 Gudjonsson reference, "[w]ith regard to user identification and mapping, each user
12 is given a user ID (a UID), which is applicable throughout the whole of the
13 application" (col. 16, lines 7-8). Thus, in the Gudjonsson reference, it appears that
14 a user has a UID that may be a user name and that this UID is uniform throughout
15 the Gudjonsson system.

16 With respect to the UMF, at col. 21, line 61 to col. 22, line 2, the
17 Gudjonsson reference states:

18 The user mapping function (UMF) 25 itself is preferably stored in the
19 database, but the code which handles keeping the function correct is
20 implemented on each server 3 (19, 21, 23) based on the framework. In
21 clusters 1 which are connected to other clusters, there are preferably two
22 UMFs: the internal UMF and the external UMF. The internal UMF is used
23 by CSs and USs to locate USs and ICSs, and by ICSs to locate USs for
24 local cluster UIDs. The external UMF is used by ICSs to locate ICSs for
25 external UIDs.

26 Thus, the Gudjonsson reference's UMF pertains to inter-server
27 communication links for sessions between users.

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1 *Claim 1, 4-8, 11 and 12*

2 *Claim 1, as currently amended, recites:*

3 *A method for mapping a user in a heterogeneous network comprising:*

4 *receiving on a computer in a first network a user name associated*
5 *with a user in the first network;*

6 *mapping the user name to a user name associated with the same*
7 *user in a second network; and*

8 *mapping the user name associated with the user in the second*
9 *network to a user identification number associated with the user in the second*
10 *network.*

11 Applicant currently amends claim 1 for purposes of clarity to explicitly
12 recite that the user in the second network is the same user as in the first network.
13 Applicant respectfully submits that the Gudjonsson reference does not disclose,
14 either expressly or inherently, every element of claim 1. Claim 1 recites, for a
15 particular user: a user name in a first network, a user name in a second network
16 and a user identification number. Applicant fails to find such elements in the
17 Gudjonsson reference. Further, the Gudjonsson reference does not disclose the
18 mapping of the user name to a user name associated with the same user in a
19 second network and it does not disclose the mapping the user name associated
20 with the user to a user identification number associated with the user in the second
21 network.

22 As already mentioned, the Gudjonsson reference discloses a user mapping
23 function that “[m]aps a given local user to a specific US [user server]” and
24 “[m]aps a user at another cluster to a specific ICS [intra-cluster server] through the
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CID [cluster ID] associated with the user" (see Table 1, col. 15). Applicant asserts that such mapping cannot substitute for the mappings of claim 1.

Figs. 1-4 and 6 of the Gudjonsson reference depict such users, each labeled "7". For example, Fig. 3 shows two users, each labeled 7, between which a communication session is established. As such, Applicant submits that the UMF of the Gudjonsson pertains primarily to communication sessions between users; whereas, the subject matter of claim 1 pertains to mapping a user in a heterogeneous network.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that the rejection of claim 1 is traversed and that claim 1 is patentable over the Gudjonsson reference. Claims 4-8 depend on claim 1 and are believed patentable over the Gudjonsson reference for at least the same reasons. Claims 11 and 12 recite a computer-readable media for with instructions to perform the method of claim 1 and are believed patentable over the Gudjonsson reference for at least the same reason as claim 1.

Claim 2

Claim 2 depends on claim 1 and further recites: *accessing resources on a computer in the second network using the user identification number*. Applicant submits that the Gudjonsson reference does not disclose the subject matter of claim 2.

In rejecting claim 2, the Office refers to col. 11, lines 5-64 of the Gudjonsson reference, which discloses a way to control access of users 7 to resources. At col. 11, lines 32-42, the Gudjonsson reference states:

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From a user 7's perspective, a client 11 appears to the user as a small inconspicuous application, which in closed form on a user's PC appears as a small ball on the desktop. As shown in FIG. 7, when the user 7 launches the application, he/she is prompted for his user identity, which includes the address to his operator, and a password to be securely authenticated. At this point, the client 11 connects to the corresponding server 3 and establishes a secure connection with it. The connection is both strongly authenticated and may well as encrypted, using known state-of-the-art cryptographic technology, and can thus not be cracked by mischievous parties.

Thus, the Gudjonsson reference discloses entry of a "user identity" by a user using a PC client 11 for purposes of authenticating a session with a server 3 for use of resources of the server 3. However, to access such resources, Applicant fails to find any disclosure of the mappings as recited by claim 2, as claim 2 depends on claim 1. For at least this reason, Applicant submits that the rejection of claim 2 is traversed and that claim 2 is patentable over the Gudjonsson reference.

In an effort to further distinguish the Gudjonsson reference from the claimed subject matter, Applicant directs the Office to col. 27, line 5 of the Gudjonsson reference, which discloses a user log on procedure that includes authentication:

Referring to FIG. 19, in order to access the system/network of this invention, a user 7 must first log on. FIG. 19 illustrates an example of the message sequence when a user U_1 logs onto the system. When the CS 21 receives the authentication request it first checks the password for validity. The user may have been unregistered, etc. Then authentication is performed. In the example, the user's UID hasn't been used before.

The CS must therefore ask the UMF for USID. The UMF 25 selects an available US 19 with the least load to be responsible for that UID. The CS now sets the online status for U_1 on the responsible US 19 and retrieves the contact list. In the example U_1 has one contact, namely B_1 . The status for that contact must be fetched from the corresponding US of that contact. After that, CS subscribes to B_1 's online status. The US 19 of the contact user B_1 only replies if B_1 is online. CSs and clients assume by default that a contact is off-line until they receive a status message.

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Applicant submits that this procedure does not disclose the mappings of claim 2, as it depends on claim 1. Applicant further submits that this segment of the Gudjonsson reference discloses the purpose of the "user mapping function", i.e., to identify a user server and to select a user server. This purpose differs from that of claim 2, which is basically to map a user in a heterogeneous network.

Claim 3

Claim 3 depends on claim 1 and further recites: *authenticating the user after the mappings*. Applicant submits that the Gudjonsson reference does not disclose the subject matter of claim 3.

In rejecting claim 3, the Office refers to col. 11, lines 5-64 of the Gudjonsson reference, which discloses a way to for users 7 to authenticate a session between a client 11 and a server 3. At col. 11, lines 32-42, the Gudjonsson reference states:

From a user 7's perspective, a client 11 appears to the user as a small inconspicuous application, which in closed form on a user's PC appears as a small ball on the desktop. As shown in FIG. 7, when the user 7 launches the application, he/she is prompted for his user identity, which includes the address to his operator, and a password to be securely authenticated. At this point, the client 11 connects to the corresponding server 3 and establishes a secure connection with it. The connection is both strongly authenticated and may well as encrypted, using known state-of-the-art cryptographic technology, and can thus not be cracked by mischievous parties.

Thus, the Gudjonsson reference discloses entry of a "user identity" by a user using a PC client 11 for purposes of authenticating a session with a server 3. However, in authenticating the session, Applicant fails to find any disclosure of the mappings as recited by claim 3, as claim 3 depends on claim 1. For at least this reason, Applicant submits that the rejection of claim 3 is traversed and that claim 3 is patentable over the Gudjonsson reference.

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Claims 9 and 10

Claim 9 depends on claim 1 and, as currently amended, further recites:
wherein at least one of the mappings includes using remote procedure calls.
Applicant submits that the Gudjonsson reference does not disclose the subject matter of claim 9.

For purposes of clarifying the subject matter of claims 9 and 10, Applicant refers to the instant application with respect to remote procedure calls (RPCs). For example at page 37, lines 7-12 the instant application states:

Various user information management service features discussed herein use remote procedure calls (RPCs). In general, a RPC is a protocol that a program can use to request a service from another program located in another computer in a network without having to understand network details. RPC typically uses a client/server model wherein a requesting program is a client and a service-providing program is a server.

The Office states that the Gudjonsson reference discloses remote procedure calls for getting credentials, authenticating using credentials, checking map status and dumping maps at Fig. 11, col. 15, lines 13-64, col. 16, lines 7-67 and col. 18, lines 15-67. However, Applicant fails to find explicit disclosure of such remote procedure calls. Further, claim 9 recites "wherein the mappings include using remote procedure calls". Applicant fails to find any mapping in the Gudjonsson reference that relies on remote procedure calls. For at least this reason, Applicant submits that the rejection of claim 9 is traversed and that claim 9 is patentable over the Gudjonsson reference. Further, claim 10 depends on claim 9 and is believed patentable for at least the same reason.

Claim 13, 17-20, 24 and 25

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Claim 13 recites:

A method for mapping a user in a heterogeneous network comprising:
receiving on a computer in a first network a user name and a
password associated with a user in a second network;
authenticating the user using the user name and the password to
produce an authenticated user; and
mapping the authenticated user to a user identification number
associated with the user in a second network.

Applicant respectfully submits that the Gudjonsson reference does not disclose, either expressly or inherently, every element of claim 13. Claim 13 recites receiving, in a first network, a user name and a password for a user in a second network for purposes of authenticating the user and mapping the authenticated user to a user identification number. Applicant fails to find such elements in the Gudjonsson reference.

Applicant respectfully directs the Office to the foregoing summary of the Gudjonsson reference as well as the evidence and arguments presented with respect to claim 1. For at least this reason, Applicant submits that the rejection of claim 13 is traversed and that claim 13 is patentable over the Gudjonsson reference. Claims 17-20 depend on claim 13 and are believed patentable over the Gudjonsson reference for at least the same reason. Claims 24 and 25 recite a computer-readable media for with instructions to perform the method of claim 13 and are believed patentable over the Gudjonsson reference for at least the same reason as claim 13. Applicant notes that claim 24 is currently amended to pertain to the subject matter of claim 13.

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1 *Claim 14*

2 Claim 14 depends on claim 13 and recites: *further comprising accessing*
3 *resources on a computer in the second network using the user identification*
4 *number.* Applicant submits that the Gudjonsson reference does not disclose the
5 subject matter of claim 14.

6 In rejecting claim 14, the Office refers to the rejection of claim 2; thus,
7 Applicant refers the Office to the foregoing evidence and arguments for claim 2.
8 Applicant further submits that the Gudjonsson reference does not disclose
9 receiving a user name and a password on a computer in a first network and
10 subsequent authenticating to produce an authenticated user and mapping of the
11 authenticated user to a user identification number for purposes of accessing
12 resources on a computer in a second network. For at least this reason, Applicant
13 submits that the rejection of claim 14 is traversed and that claim 14 is patentable
14 over the Gudjonsson reference.

15
16 *Claim 15*

17 Claim 15 depends on claim 13 and recites: *wherein a computer in the first*
18 *network performs the authenticating.* Applicant submits that the Gudjonsson
19 reference does not disclose the subject matter of claim 15.

20 Applicant fails to find in the Gudjonsson reference the recited
21 authenticating on a computer in a first network for purposes of producing an
22 authenticated user and mapping the authenticated user to a user identification
23 number for the user in a second network. Again, the Gudjonsson reference
24 pertains primarily to establishing communication sessions between users and
25 where access to resources is disclosed, there is no disclosure of the claimed

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1 authenticating and mapping. Further, Applicant fails to find where the
2 Gudjonsson reference provides for mapping an authenticated user to a user
3 identification number. For at least these reasons, Applicant submits that the
4 rejection of claim 15 is traversed and that claim 15 is patentable over the
5 Gudjonsson reference.

6
7 *Claim 16*

8 Claim 16 depends on claim 13 and recites: *wherein a computer in the first*
9 *network performs the mapping.* Applicant submits that the Gudjonsson reference
10 does not disclose the subject matter of claim 16.

11 Applicant fails to find in the Gudjonsson reference the recited
12 authenticating on a computer in a first network for purposes of producing an
13 authenticated user and mapping the authenticated user to a user identification
14 number for the user in a second network. Again, the Gudjonsson reference
15 pertains primarily to establishing communication sessions between users and
16 where access to resources is disclosed, there is no disclosure of the claimed
17 authenticating and mapping. Further, Applicant fails to find where the
18 Gudjonsson reference provides for mapping an authenticated user to a user
19 identification number. For at least these reasons, Applicant submits that the
20 rejection of claim 16 is traversed and that claim 16 is patentable over the
21 Gudjonsson reference.

22
23 *Claim 21*
24
25

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1 Claim 21 depends on claim 13 and recites: *wherein the mapping includes*
2 *using a map on a mapping server.* Applicant submits that the Gudjonsson
3 reference does not disclose the subject matter of claim 21.

4 Applicant fails to find in the Gudjonsson reference the recited mapping.
5 Again, the Gudjonsson reference pertains primarily to establishing communication
6 sessions between users and where access to resources is disclosed, there is no
7 disclosure of the claimed mapping. In particular, Applicant fails to find where the
8 Gudjonsson reference provides for mapping an authenticated user to a user
9 identification number. For at least these reasons, Applicant submits that the
10 rejection of claim 21 is traversed and that claim 21 is patentable over the
11 Gudjonsson reference.

12
13 *Claims 22-23*

14 Claim 22 depends on claim 13 and recites: *wherein the mapping includes*
15 *using remote procedure calls.* Applicant respectfully directs the Office to the
16 evidence and arguments for claims 9 and 10, above. For at least this reason,
17 Applicant submits that the rejection of claim 22 is traversed and that claim 22 is
18 patentable over the Gudjonsson reference. Further, claim 23 depends on claim 22
19 and is believed patentable for at least the same reason.

20
21 *Claims 26-34, 37 and 38*

22 Claim 26, as currently amended, recites:

23 *A method for mapping a user in a heterogeneous network comprising:*

24 *receiving on a computer in a second network a user identification*
25 *number associated with a user in a first network; and*

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1 mapping the user identification number to a user name associated
2 with the same user in the second network wherein the user's user identification
3 number optionally maps to more than one user name for the user in the
4 heterogeneous network.

5 Applicant currently amends claim 26 for purposes of clarity to explicitly
6 recite that the user in the second network is the same user as in the first network.
7 Applicant respectfully submits that the Gudjonsson reference does not disclose,
8 either expressly or inherently, every element of claim 26. Claim 26 recites
9 mapping the user identification number to a user name associated with the same
10 user in the second network. Further, for purposes of clarity, Applicant currently
11 amends claim 26 to recite that the user in the first and second networks of the
12 heterogeneous network is the same user and that the user's user identification
13 number optionally maps to more than one user name for the user in the
14 heterogeneous network. Applicant fails to find such mapping in the Gudjonsson
15 reference.

16 At the abstract, Figs. 1 and 6, col. 11, lines 21 to col. 12, line 54 and col.
17 30, line 61 to col. 31, line 58 of the Gudjonsson reference, Applicant fails to find
18 evidence relevant to the subject matter of claim 26. In an effort to clearly
19 distinguish the Gudjonsson reference, Applicant respectfully refers the Office to
20 col. 24, lines 32-47:

21 FIG. 14 is a flowchart illustrating how a first user (e.g., user #1) can
22 establish a communications session (e.g., voice chat, text chat, etc.) with a
23 second user (e.g., user #2) using one or more clusters of the network. The
24 first and second users may be assigned to the same cluster or alternatively
25 to different clusters of the network. Moreover, the first and second users
may be assigned to the same user server (US) 19, but more likely are
assigned to different users servers 19. To start, the first user desires to send
the second user an invitation message regarding the session (i.e., an
INVITE message) [step 151]. The first user may look up the second user's

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1 UID on the first user's contact list (note that the UID need not include a
2 network address of the second user such as the second user's phone number
of IP address, thereby keeping a degree of anonymity associated with the
communication session).

3 Applicant submits that the Gudjonsson reference discloses a first user
4 looking up a second user's UID on the first user's contact list. As already
5 mentioned, according to the Gudjonsson reference, "[w]ith regard to user
6 identification and mapping, each user 7 is given a user ID (a UID), which is
7 applicable throughout the whole of the application" (col. 16, lines 7-8). There is
8 no disclosure of mapping a user identification number in a heterogeneous network
9 to a user name where a user may have a different user name in various of the
10 networks of the heterogeneous network. Such different user names typically exist
11 in a heterogeneous network with a WINDOWS® OS network and a UNIX OS
12 network. Table 1 at page 20 of the instant application gives two examples: a user
13 with a user name JohnDoe for a WINDOWS® OS network and a user name Johnd
14 for a UNIX OS network and a user with a user name Maryjane for a WINDOWS®
15 OS network and Maryj for a UNIX OS network. As discussed below, the
16 Gudjonsson reference does not address such issues as associated with users in
17 heterogeneous networks.

18 For at least these reasons, Applicant submits that claim 26, as currently
19 amended, is patentable over the Gudjonsson reference. Claims 27-34 depend on
20 claim 26 and are believed patentable over the Gudjonsson reference for at least the
21 same reason. Claims 37 and 38 recite a computer-readable media for with
22 instructions to perform the method of claim 26 and are believed patentable over
23 the Gudjonsson reference for at least the same reason as claim 26. Applicant notes
24 that claim 37 is currently amended to pertain to the subject matter of claim 26.
25

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1 *Claims 35-36*

2 Claim 35 depends on claim 26 and recites: *wherein the mapping includes*
3 *using remote procedure calls.* Applicant respectfully directs the Office to the
4 evidence and arguments for claims 9 and 10, above. For at least this reason,
5 Applicant submits that the rejection of claim 35 is traversed and that claim 35 is
6 patentable over the Gudjonsson reference. Further, claim 36 depends on claim 35
7 and is believed patentable for at least the same reason.

8
9 *Claims 39 and 40*

10 Claim 39, as currently amended, recites:

11 *A method for mapping a user in a heterogeneous network comprising:*12 *receiving on a computer in a first network a user name associated*
13 *with a user in the first network;*14 *mapping the user name to a user name associated with the same*
15 *user in a second network; and*16 *mapping the user name associated with the user in the second*
17 *network to a user identification number associated with the user in the second*
18 *network, wherein the mapping includes using a map on a mapping server and the*
19 *mapping server maintains a default map, a simple map and/or explicit maps that*
20 *provide override.*21 Applicant currently amends claim 39 for purposes of clarity to explicitly
22 recite that the user in the second network is the same user as in the first network.
23 Applicant respectfully submits that the Gudjonsson reference does not disclose,
24 either expressly or inherently, every element of claim 39. The instant application
25

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discusses default, simple and explicit maps and override. At page 30, lines 4-10, the instant application states:

Such an advanced mapping feature is useful to override an inadvertently created mapping, for example, one created due to simple mappings. This feature avoids associating different users who may be given the identical user names in two networks (e.g., WINDOWS® OS and UNIX® OS networks), which would be likely to cause a simple mapping to "incorrectly" map such users. Similarly, mapping a user to an unmapped user is also useful to ensure that some users are provided anonymous network file system access privileges.

At page 31, lines 9-12, the instant application states:

If a client's user information is explicitly associated with an "unmapped" user, the exemplary user name mapping returns an indication that the user is "unmapped". This feature is useful to override users who get mapped by default due and/or to assign an anonymous UID and/or GID.

Applicant fails to find in the Gudjonsson reference disclosure of mechanisms for override. At the abstract, Fig. 6, col. 11, lines 21 to col. 12, line 54 and col. 18, lines 15-67 of the Gudjonsson reference, Applicant fails to find any evidence relevant to the subject matter of claim 39.

Applicant also directs the Office to evidence and arguments presented with respect to claim 1 to traverse the rejection of claim 39. For at least these reasons, Applicant submits that the rejection of claim 39 is traversed and that claim 39 is patentable over the Gudjonsson reference. Claim 40 depends on claim 39 and is believed patentable over the Gudjonsson reference for at least the same reasons.

Claims 41 and 42

Claim 41 recites:

A method for mapping a user in a heterogeneous network comprising:

receiving on a computer in a first network a user name and a password associated with a user in a second network;

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1 *authenticating the user using the user name and the password to*
2 *produce an authenticated user; and*

3 *mapping the authenticated user to a user identification number*
4 *associated with the user in a second network wherein the mapping includes using*
5 *a map on a mapping server and the mapping server maintains a default map, a*
6 *simple map and/or explicit maps that provide override.*

7 Applicant respectfully submits that the Gudjonsson reference does not
8 disclose, either expressly or inherently, every element of claim 41. Applicant
9 directs the Office to the evidence and arguments for claim 39 for override and
10 claim 13 for various other elements. For at least these reasons, Applicant submits
11 that the rejection of claim 41 is traversed and that claim 41 is patentable over the
12 Gudjonsson reference. Claim 42 depends on claim 41 and is believed patentable
13 over the Gudjonsson reference for at least the same reasons.

14
15 *Claims 43 and 44*

16 Claim 43, as currently amended, recites:

17 *A method for mapping a user in a heterogeneous network comprising:*

18 *receiving on a computer in a second network a user identification*
19 *number associated with a user in a first network; and*

20 *mapping the user identification number to a user name associated*
21 *with the same user in the second network wherein the mapping includes using a*
22 *map on a mapping server and the mapping server maintains a default map, a*
23 *simple map and/or explicit maps that provide override.*

24 Applicant currently amends claim 43 for purposes of clarity to explicitly
25 recite that the user in the second network is the same user as in the first network.

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Applicant respectfully submits that the Gudjonsson reference does not disclose, either expressly or inherently, every element of claim 43. Applicant directs the Office to the evidence and arguments for claim 39 for override and claim 26 for various other elements. For at least these reasons, Applicant submits that the rejection of claim 43 is traversed and that claim 43 is patentable over the Gudjonsson reference. Claim 44 depends on claim 43 and is believed patentable over the Gudjonsson reference for at least the same reasons.

Conclusion

Pending claims 1-44 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt issuance of the subject application. If any issues remain that prevent issuance of this application, the Office is urged to contact the undersigned attorney before issuing a subsequent Action.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dated: 6-13-05

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